

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

Claim 26 is canceled. Claims 1, 3-23, 27, and 29-31 are currently amended.

This amendment changes and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

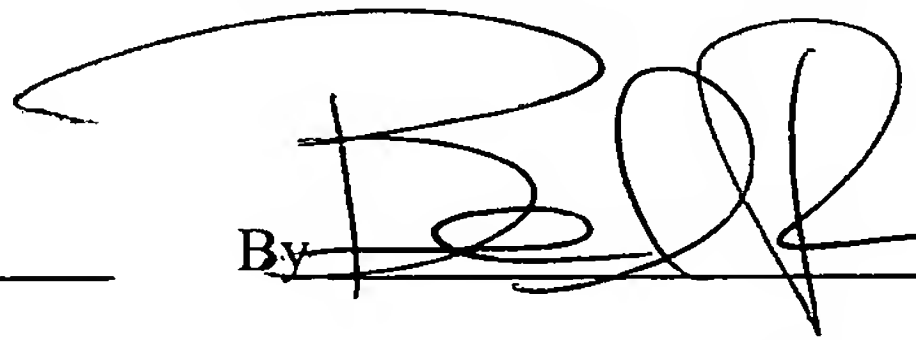
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 8, 2006

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